

## On Education Funding by Washington State

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At the start of your school year, did **certain questions** seem all too familiar?

- Why is my kid's **class size so large**?
- Why doesn't my school have a **librarian, counselor or nurse**?
- Why can't kids bring their **textbooks** home to study?
  - Why aren't there **more electives** for kids to take?
  - Why aren't the **athletic facilities** better maintained?
  - Why can't the **school bus take kids home** from their after-school activities?

We know that **the lack of dollars** has something to do with the answers.

**But, why?** Is the shortfall at the district or state level? Is it just our school district, or is the problem widespread? Is anyone doing anything about it? **What can we do?**

**The bad news:** Groups of us dug deep to get to the bottom of the money issue and found that our state's **K-12 public school funding is in a crisis**.

**The good news:** After years of neglect, the **state is finally drafting a plan** to get our schools out of the budget hole – [ESHB 2261](#) and the [Quality Education Council](#) – and how all kids can receive an education preparing them for the 21st century.

The **2009 legislative session** could launch their plan. . . .  
with a lot of help from **people like us** to –

Encourage all our state legislators to seriously consider properly funding our schools per the mandate in our state's constitution, "It is the **paramount duty of the state** to make *ample provision* for the education of all children . . . ."

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If you would like to **learn more about school funding news**,  
and **you want to be prepared** to speak up for your school...  
while **feeling assured** the info is documented with sources you can check, visit . . .

***[www.fundingwaschools.org](http://www.fundingwaschools.org)***

Share all we've invested in researching studies, collecting data, and attending meetings where officials and policymakers have debated the funding and future of K-12 education.

**Be ready to judge for yourself what a good funding plan looks like** -  
speak up for our kids and end your worries about **your kids' options for their future**.